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## Scientific Method

### Ask questions, test the answers, do it again.

That's the process scientists use when they tackle a problem.

**Observations** lead to a question. Possible answers are called **hypotheses**. You can test these in many ways such as with an experiment, a mathematical analysis, creating a model, and more observation.

Next the scientists **analyze** their results to come to a **conclusion** that supports or rejects their hypothesis.

Sometimes this process leads to new observations which lead to new questions.

Experiments need to be repeatable by other teams to see if they get the same results. A hypothesis that repeatedly is validated (found to be true in testing) can become a scientific theory.

**Scientists are always observing, questioning, and repeating experiments to keep learning!**



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J-KIT STEM

# Alaska Plants & Bugs

Scientific Concept: Entomology, Botany

Recommended Ages: 5 to 12

Scientific Practice: Observation, Data recording

## What to Know About This Kit

This kit is for you to observe plants and bugs of Alaska. What can you see? What can you observe about how they look and their behavior? How do the plants change in the seasons? Which bugs and plants go together? Record your observations on the tearaway paper pad and keep it. We also hope you will write about (and draw) some of what you observe in the community journal so we can see what all our library families find!

*Please note: This kit must be returned to a staff member at an Anchorage Public Library location.*



## Kit Contents & Replacement Costs

| Item Type                          | Description  | Cost         |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Object                             | Pocket Microscope  | \$15         |
| Object                             | Magnifying Glass   | \$11         |
| Leaflet                            | <i>Dragonflies &amp; Damselflies: A Pocket Naturalist Guide</i>  | \$7          |
| Leaflet                            | <i>Bugs &amp; Slugs: A Pocket Naturalist Guide</i>               | \$7          |
| Leaflet                            | <i>Alaska Trees &amp; Wildflowers: A Pocket Naturalist Guide</i> | \$8          |
| Book                               | <i>Insects of South-Central Alaska</i>                           | \$20         |
| Book                               | <i>Alaska's Wild Plants</i>                                      | \$14         |
| Packaging & Processing Fee:        |  | \$25         |
| <b>Total Kit Replacement Cost:</b> |  | <b>\$107</b> |

Magnifying Glass



Pocket Microscope



Slides are not included with the pocket microscope.

Please return the paper instructions for the microscope.

**Please verify all parts are present before returning.**